

plurality of qubits is characterized by a clockwise or a counterclockwise supercurrent that circulates in a plane in the vicinity of the Josephson junction in said respective qubit.

54. (Amended) The qubit of claim 28, wherein each quantum state on the qubit is characterized by a clockwise or a counterclockwise supercurrent that circulates in a plane in the vicinity of the clean Josephson junction.

55. (Amended) The quantum register of claim 39, wherein a qubit is formed by each mesoscopic island in the at least one mesoscopic island together with the first bank and a Josephson junction in the at least one Josephson junction, and wherein each quantum state of each said qubit is characterized by a clockwise or a counterclockwise supercurrent that circulates in a plane in the vicinity of the Josephson junction in said qubit.